

Message Text

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71

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AS-01 /066 W

----- 066207

R 121458Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 702

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PINT PFOR GH

SUBJ: ANNUAL ACHEAMPONG MEET THE PRESS

1. CHAIRMAN ACHEAMPONG HELD PRESS CONFERENCE JAN 9 IN CONNECTION WITH FOURTH ANNIVERSARY (JAN 13) OF COUP HE LED AGAINST BUSIA GOVERNMENT. CONFERENCE WAS LACKLUSTER AFFAIR WITH ACHEAMPONG SURROUNDED AT TABLE BY MOST MEMBERS OF SMC AND NRC AND FIELDING BUT 17 QUESTIONS.

2. PRESS JAN 10 HEADLINED HIS REMARKS ON EVENTUAL RETURN TO CIVILIAN RULE. ACHEAMPONG SAID SMC DID NOT PLAN TO RULE FOREVER BUT IT WOULD BE PREMATURE TO SET A DATE FOR RETURN TO NON-MILITARY REGIME.

3. HE ALSO CRITICIZED WESTERN PRESS HANDLING OF GHANA, CLAIMING REPORTS WERE DISTORTED AND CAUSED CONFUSION ABOUT PROGRESS BEING MADE. HE CASTIGATED LOCAL GHANAIAN JOURNALISTS WHO ACT AS STRINGERS FOR FOREIGN PUBLICATIONS FOR FEEDING MISLEADING

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INFORMATION TO PUBLICATIONS OUTSIDE GHANA. (COMMENT: AT LEAST

TWO ARE CURRENTLY GUESTS OF THE STATE IN LOCAL PRISONS.)

4. OTHERWISE CONFERENCE WAS LARGELY SELF CONGRATULATION OF
PROGRESS BEING MADE UNDER LEADERSHIP OF SMC.
BLACK

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Concepts: GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS, PRESS CONFERENCES
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
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